

GRAFTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Office of the Commissioners
3855 Dartmouth College Hwy.
N. Haverhill, NH 03774
Tuesday October 2, 2007
PUMPKIN DAY



PRESENT: Commissioners Michael Cryans, Ray Burton and, Executive Director Clough and Secretary Jeri Martino.

EXCUSED: Martha Richards

Commissioner Cryans opened the meeting at 9:06

Commissioner Burton moved to approve the minutes from September 25, 2007, which was seconded by Commissioner Cryans. All were in favor.

The Commissioners signed the check registers.

Director Clough gave the Commissioners a copy of the Grafton County towns County tax rate for 2007 with comparisons of 2006 to 2007. She stated that they ranged from a high of 32.60% to a low of 6.41% and explained that the variance is due to the tax commitment being established based on equalized valuation and as a town's equalized valuation rises so does that towns tax commitment to the County.

On September 20th the CDFR advisory committee approved the grant for AdiMaB, pending approval from Governor and Council.

Sheriff Dutile has filled the vacant deputy position with an officer from the Groton Police Department who will begin on Tuesday October 9th.

Letters requesting federal funding for the jail project were sent out to Senator's Sununu, Gregg and Hodes.

Letters in reply to the concerns of the Lincoln board of Selectmen were sent out to all the towns in Grafton County.

A request for a moratorium on the jail process was received from the Selectman in the town of Lincoln.

The Commissioners signed for their copy of the 2008 personnel polices.

A request was received from UNH Cooperative Extension, asking permission for members of the NH Lilac Commissioner to come to the County and prune the stand of lilacs that line the Community Corrections building. The Commissioners thought the request was reasonable and Director Clough will follow up with the details and requirements.



Director Clough presented the Commissioners with the SMRT contract for architectural services, which has already been funded. Future work is contingent upon pending approval from the Executive Committee. The Commissioners signed the document.

COMMISSIONER ISSUES:

Commissioner Burton attended a meeting of the Good Ole Boys wherein his adversary in the last election, Peter Glenshaw, who is the new Director for Community Relations at Dartmouth College, was guest speaker. Commissioner Burton suggested that Mr. Glenshaw be put on an agenda for a meeting.

Commissioner Burton said that he had met with Annette Carboneau from NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness), an agency who helps parents with mentally ill children and would like to see that the DoC is aware of their services.

Commissioner Cryans said that at a meeting for suicide preventing which Supt. Libby spoke at, members of NAMI were there.

Commissioner Burton passed out a couple of articles that were given to him by resident H. Brown.

Commissioner Cryans went to the Lebanon/Hanover Chamber luncheon last Wednesday, and then toured Hypertherm.

Commissioner Cryans and Commissioner Burton went to Concord to meet the new UNH president Mark Huddleston.

Commissioner Cryans attended the Democratic Presidential Debate that was recently held at Dartmouth College.

Commissioner Cryans also attended the Mascoma Valley Health Initiative in Canaan which was very well attended.

9:40 AM The Commissioners left to join the activities of Pumpkin Day
10:30 AM The Commissioners resumed their meeting.

Corrections Superintendent Libby, Sheriff Dutile and Lieutenant Elliott arrived to discuss the Jail project.

Commissioner Cryans began by saying that he was still concerned about the possibility of a roadblock being put up against continuation of the new jail process.

Supt. Libby said that the core team's vision was of planning for the next twenty years and that he feels that they have done a very good job at that.



Commissioner Burton said that it's going to come down to the Delegation vote and getting the votes needed. He said that the elected officials may have to go out and do some talking.

Supt. Libby said that he met with the Selectboard from Lincoln who agreed that a new jail is needed; their main objection is that it's unfortunate that after 100 years, the time to do it is now and seems like bad planning. They also felt that it was sprung on them.

Commissioner Burton asked the Sheriff about crowding in the current space he has and he answered by saying that there is no evidence room, the areas are crowded and there is little filing area. The Sheriff also noted that although the cost to have the Sheriff's Dept. in there is \$1.8M, but to take that out would not necessary remove that \$1.8M from the cost due to other changes that would have to be made for connection to the Courthouse.

10:45 AM Commissioner Burton was excused.

Supt. Libby added that another concern from Lincoln is the fact that there are also numerous capital projects going on at the same time as this project, which Commissioner Cryans said there would never be a good time to do them once the jail project begins.

Supt. Libby reiterated the fact that the plan for the new jail has been established by the core team and that it is a good plan. There are no expensive top end products and it's a cost efficient plan. He added that he would be disappointed if the process were to set out like Sullivan County's where they have a set amount of money and have to construct something within that amount. He added that it's not a smart way of doing things and that the team was taught differently from their trip to NIC in Colorado. Commissioner Cryans said that he agreed that the effort has been made to do this right, beginning with that trip.

Supt. Libby said that he feels confident in the job that's been done so far and that he would like to see the Commissioners feel that confidence as well and to be supportive of the process so far.

Estimated costs will be ready by the 10th of October.

Supt. Libby asked if there was anything else that the Commissioner would like to see done before next meeting when they tour the site, to which the Commissioner just reaffirmed his concern for the fact that there is no room for reduction if needed.

Director Clough said that operational costs will be high, but the County will also be opening up jobs to the community which would be beneficial for everyone in the long run.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:12 AM

Raymond S. Burton, Clerk

